

## Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 CU-04 /080 W

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8376

UNCLAS OTTAWA 4778

POUCHED INFO ALL CONSULAR POSTS IN CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EIND, SCUL, CA

SUBJ: BILL C-58, TIME AND READER'S DIGEST

REF: OTTAWA 4760

1. TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL DECEMBER 20 PUBLISHED CP ITEM BASED ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY OF STATE FAULKNER. REITERATED GOC STATEMENT TO PROCEED WITH C-58 ON RETROACTIVE BASIS AND REJECTED APPEALS FOR ONE AND TWO YEAR DELAYS WITH RESPECT TO PUBLICATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE:

"HE SAID THE ONLY CONCESSION HE IS WILLING TO CONSIDER IS ONE HE OFFERED SOME TIME AGO TO READER'S DIGEST GRANTING THE COMPANY TIME TO SELL 75 PERCENT OF ITS SHARES TO CANADIANS AND QUALIFY FOR CANADIAN TAX STATUS. BUT THE COMPANY, ALREADY ABOUT ONE-THIRD CANADIAN-OWNED MUST FIRST INDICATE A WILLINGNESS TO COMPLY WITH EDITORIAL CONTENT AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS, HE SAID.

"NEITHER TIME NOR READER'S DIGEST WILL ACCEPT THE 80 PERCENT CONTENT RULE. IN ADDITION, READER'S DIGEST  
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HAS SAID IT IS UNWILLING TO MEET THE OWNERSHIP

REQUIREMENTS.

" TIME PLANS TO CLOSE ITS CANADIAN NEWS SECTION LATE  
NEXT MONTH IF THE BILL IS PASSED.

"MR. FAULKNER SAID HE THINKS THE LEGISLATION, TOGETHER  
WITH CANADIAN CONTENT RULES FOR TELEVISION AND RADIO,  
SUBSIDIES TO THEATRE AND DANCE COMPANIES AND OTHER  
CULTURAL PROGRAMS, MAY EVENTUALLY REDUCE THE U.S. CULTURAL  
INFLUENCE IN CANADA.

"THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT THIS IS HAPPENING, 'BUT I'M  
NOT SURE IN MY OWN MIND YET' HOW EFFECTIVE THE MEASURES WILL  
BE.

"HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAS SUCCESSFULLY DISCOUNTED  
OPPONENTS' ARGUMENTS THAT THE MAGAZINE BILL CONSTITUTES  
CENSORSHIP, BUT CLAIMED THAT SOME NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS,  
ESPECIALLY IN THE GLOBE AND MAIL, 'MISREPRESENTED' THE  
GOVERNMENT'S POSITION."  
JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

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